

## FUNDING FOR INJURY AND VIOLENCE PREVENTION IN NORTH CAROLINA

The amount of funding for IVP in North Carolina pales in comparison to the huge toll paid in medical costs, lost productivity, disability and death. State dollars appropriated to the IVP program in North Carolina do not equal even half a cent per person. If adequate resources were put into IVP, it could mean thousands of lives saved, more than 154,000 hospitalizations prevented, and avoidance of over 800,000 trips to the emergency room. This is just a snapshot of the statistics that describe the enormous burden of injury and violence in the state. More in-depth information can be found in the next section entitled *The Burden of Injuries and Violence in N.C.*

### State Appropriations for the Injury and Violence Prevention Program Versus Chronic Disease Prevention Programs in N.C.:

|  | Total annual appropriation (2008) | Appropriation per person (2008 population) | Expenditure per death (all ages, 2008) | Expenditure per years of potential life lost (2008) |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|
| State appropriation for chronic disease prevention programs    | \$2,956,453                       | \$0.32 per person                          | \$71.30                                | \$9.87  |
| State appropriation for injury and violence prevention program | \$23,599                          | \$0.003 per person                         | \$5.54                                 | \$0.21  |
| Ratio of chronic disease : injury                              | 125 : 1                           | 107 : 1                                    | 13 : 1                                 | 47 : 1  |

2008 population=9,222,414

2008 Injury deaths=MVC and Unintentional injuries= 4,257

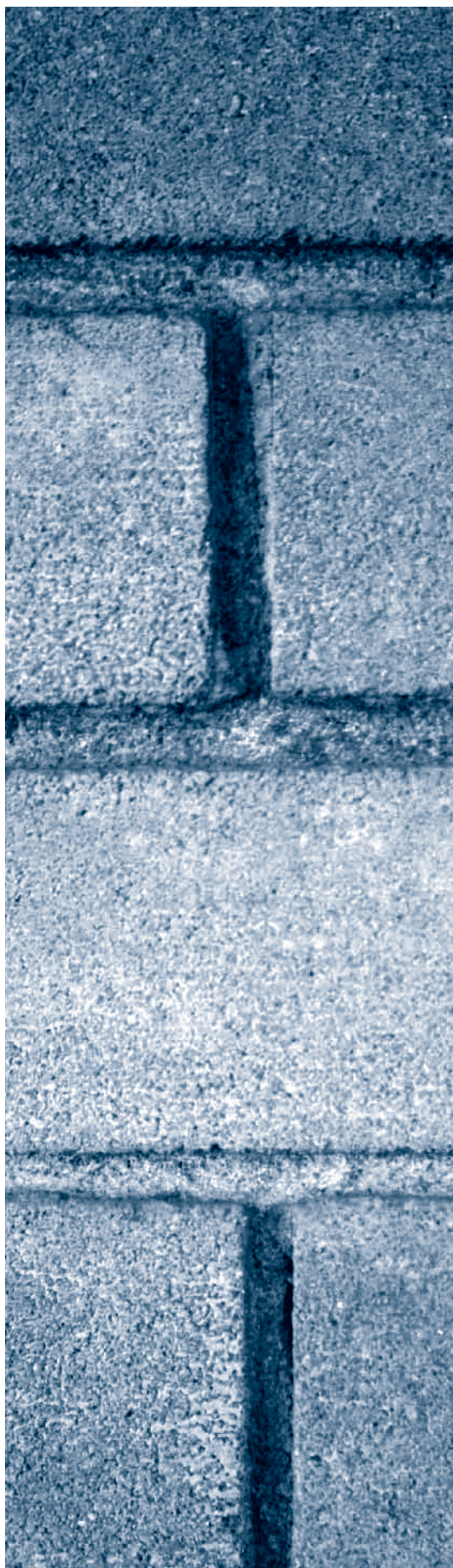
2008 Chronic Disease deaths=Heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes= 41,461

2008 YPLLs from Injury deaths= 113,824

2008 YPLLs from CD deaths= 299,414

The table above outlines state appropriations for the IVP program versus appropriations for chronic disease prevention programs. No direct monies are appropriated by the North Carolina General Assembly to the IVP program. The IVP program has traditionally received limited funding from the Maternal and Child Health federal block grant because of the strong connection between injury prevention and the health and wellbeing of the state's children and adolescents. The \$23,599 shown in the table equals the state match requirement for these federal funds. This funding, however, is appropriate and appreciated, as injury is the leading cause of death for children in North Carolina. Still, current state funding per injury death is only \$5.54 – less than the cost of one ticket to the North Carolina State Fair.

Expenditures in North Carolina lag behind other states when looking at the amount spent on injury prevention per person, per year. In Oklahoma, about 11 cents is spent on prevention for each of its 3.6 million people; in Florida, with a population around 18 million, about 3 cents per person is spent on prevention. This shows us that North Carolina spends 10 times less than Florida and 36 times less than Oklahoma on its injury and violence prevention program.



## Working to Increase Funding

To achieve the goals set out in this plan, it will be necessary to obtain increased and sustained funding from the North Carolina General Assembly and a variety of other funders. The IVP-SAC will oversee work to increase funding. The objectives that will guide the IVP-SAC's efforts are:

- By December 2010, or when available, seek core funding to support the injury and violence prevention program's basic operations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National center for Injury Prevention and Control.
- By June 2010, develop a plan for legislative fiscal requests to the North Carolina General Assembly for the 2011 and 2013 sessions.
- By January 2012, organize a group and/or a non-governmental agency with a mission that includes advocating for injury and violence prevention legislative initiatives and fiscal requests.
- By December 2014, increase the amount of funding state and local injury and violence prevention programs receive. The funding is to be directed toward or managed by a state government agency or university that works on injury and violence prevention. The goal is to receive a minimum of \$500,000 from the North Carolina General Assembly.

The likelihood of obtaining funding for injury and violence prevention is increased by spreading the word that the dedicated professionals in this field are organized and working to achieve common goals. Promoting injury and violence prevention as a group will raise awareness throughout the state, which can help everyone obtain and sustain resources to go towards important and needed injury prevention programs.